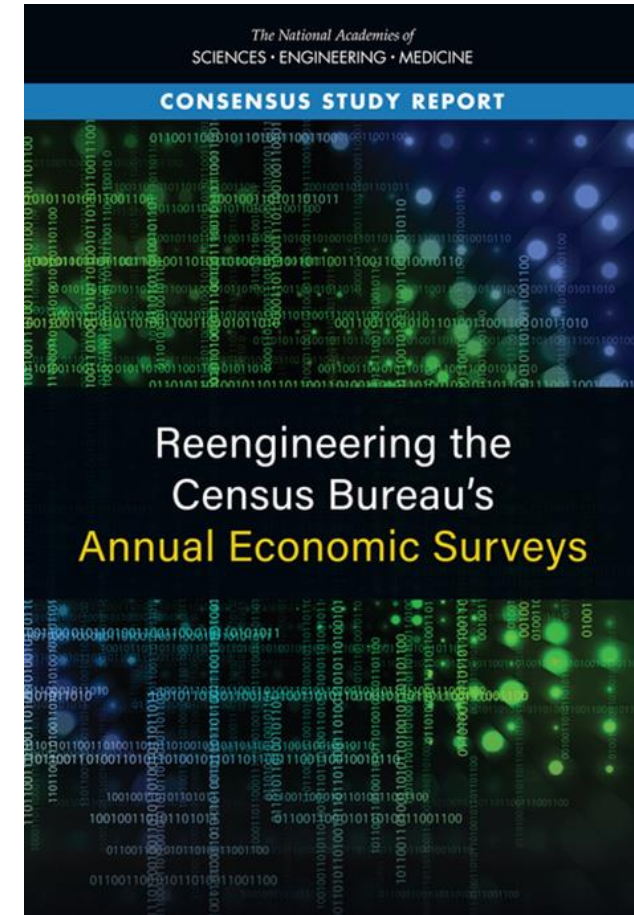


# Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES) Program Overview

September 2021

# Project Background → From NAS to AIES

- The Census Bureau requested the Committee on National Statistics to review our portfolio of annual economic surveys.
- Economic Directorate (Econ) leadership assessed the recommendations and decided the scope.
- The end result of this large-scale effort will be a new program called the **Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES)**.



# Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES)

Current State

- Industry focused
- Overlapping content
- National estimates
- Independent samples
- Different reporting units by program
- Inefficient processes and operations
- Varying classification systems

ACES

M3 UFO

ARTS

Business  
Register

AWTS

ASM

SAS

Future State

- Single source of truth for a company
- Continuous two way updates from surveys

Integrated Frame

- Alignment to enterprise programs
- Respondent centric
- Rotating content
- Coordinated collection and instruments
- Harmonized reporting units
- Targeted, coordinated sample
- National and state estimates
- Fully leverage alternative data
- Consistent classification systems
- Blended data products

Annual Integrated  
Economic Survey

ACES, ARTS, ASM, AWTS, M3UFO, SAS

2019



2020



2021



2022



2023



2024



Coordinate  
collection across  
SAS/ARTS/AWTS,  
conduct early  
sample research



Evaluate existing  
content and  
provide high level  
recommendations



Harmonize Content,  
Perform Cognitive  
Testing, Create  
Frame Prototype and  
HL Sample Design

Finalize Content &  
Modules, Conduct  
Field & Usability  
Testing

Develop  
Instrument, Finalize  
Frame, Draw  
Sample

Mail New Annual  
Integrated  
Economic Survey  
(AIES)

# Drivers of this Effort



Meet data needs –  
timely, granular,  
standardized



Declining budgets



Improve efficiency – consistency  
across programs (content,  
processes, systems)



Declining response rates



Stay relevant



# Stakeholders

## Leadership Support

**Executive Sponsors**  
Nick Orsini, Sam Jones

## Senior Leadership Team

Econ Associate Director  
Econ Assistant Director  
Econ Division Chiefs  
CES Division Chief

**Portfolio Management**  
Governing Board (PMGB)

## Stakeholder Divisions

Economic Applications Division (EAD)

Economic Indicators Division (EID)

Economic Management Division (EMD)

Economic Statistical Methods Division (ESMD)

Economy-Wide Statistics Division (EWD)

## AIES Internal Stakeholders

System Development and Implementation			
Survey Design and Integration			
Respondent Research			
Frame & Methods Component	Content Component	Operations Component	Alignment Component
Frame Improvements	2022 Econ Census Content Determination	Collection Strategy	Alternative Data Sources
Sampling	Annual Content Determination and Harmonization	Data Management	Full Service Account Manager Program
Frame & Sample Maintenance	Annual Data Products	Instrument Design	Analyst Toolkit
Estimation and Imputation	Data Review, Analysis and Correction	Data User Outreach	Indicator Alignment
Data Editing		Dissemination	
Disclosure Methodology			

Component Owners collectively established the end-state vision for the overall project and are responsible for directing their teams toward that vision. In addition, they set priorities, monitor and report progress, communicate decisions and status, and direct the execution and planning of implementation activities.

## Budget Integration

Economic Directorate Support Services (EDSS)

CFO Budget Division (BUD)

## Enterprise Collaborators

Center for Enterprise Dissemination Services and Consumer Innovation (CEDSCI)	Data Architecture Standards	Data Ingest and Collection for the Enterprise (DICE) – Centurion 2.0	Data Ingest and Collection for the Enterprise (DICE) – QDM	Data Science Training Program
Disclosure Modernization	Enterprise Data Lake	Enterprise Frames Team	Improving Design of Web Surveys through Standardized Practices	

## Forums

Federal Statistical Research Data Centers (FSRDC)

Census Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC)

National Association of Business, Economics and Technology (NABE)

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM)

State Data Centers (SDCs)

American Economic Association (AEA)

## AIES External Stakeholders

### Main Agency Collaborators

Federal Reserve Board (FRB)	Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)	Bureau Economic Analysis (BEA)	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Industrial Production and Capacity Utilization, Index of Capital Production	Annual productivity series, producer price indexes, annual supply use tables	GDP, input/output accounts, capital stock estimates, GNP weight deflators	National Health Accounts, Health Care Providers Structure of Costs Analysis
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)	Department of Commerce	Office of Management and Budget (OMB)	Congress
Manufacturing extension partnership	Data products use	Chief Statistician of the Federal statistical system	Appropriations and Budget

### Strategies

Federal Register Notices	Consultation with Key Federal Data Users	Account Managers Program	Customer Interaction Platform (eCorrespondence)
Consultation with Accounting Experts	External Customer Satisfaction Survey	Consultation, Cognitive Testing, and Other Testing with Selected Businesses	Consultation with Trade and Professional Associations
Promotion and Outreach			

Communication is key!

# Accomplishments so far...

- Finalized a Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- Completed initial draft of the Annual Program Requirements
- Built a content repository and identified content for new AIES modules
- Conducted a record-keeping study to see how businesses maintain their books and get a better idea of data accessibility

# Accomplishments so far... (continued)

- Carried out a coordinated collection pilot, consolidating contacts and communication between companies in multiple in-scope surveys
- Completed a prototype list of business units in-scope to AIES
- Studied feasibility of coordinated sampling and established sampling unit

# Draft Modules and Topics

- **Module 1**

- Business Classification
- Business Characteristics
  - Operational Status
  - Organizational Change
- High-level Company Totals
- Collection Process

- **Module 2**

- Detailed Revenues
- Products
- Detailed Expenses

- **Module 3**

- Assets
- Liabilities
- Inventories
- Capital Expenditures

- **Module 4**

- All other topics not previously covered



# Current & Upcoming Work

- Standardize variable names & align with Econ Census (where possible)
- Conduct a Pilot Survey in FY22 (for survey year 2021)
- Select processing system and make updates for integrated survey
- Develop the frame

# Current & Upcoming Work (continued)

- Sample research (design planning, direct-use states, certainty company rules, measure of size, etc.)
- Align edit and imputation methodology and micro/macro review tools
- Create table layout plans for publication

# Key Upcoming Deliverables

- Complete the pilot survey
- Develop a production frame
- Finalize instrument requirements
- Obtain the sample
- Perform cognitive and usability testing
- Create the production-ready instrument
- Develop publication plans
- Mail the Annual Integrated Economic Survey

# Challenges

- Establishing the appropriate collection unit
- Determining which processing system to use since current in-scope surveys process data in different systems
- Planning for a pilot given tight timeframes and stretched resources
- Knowing what to test from a research perspective
- Availability of enterprise solutions

# Questions

- If we are unable to get data at an establishment level for key items, would state by industry be sufficient to meet most research needs?
- Do you have recommendations regarding what should be tested in the Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES) Pilot?
- What concerns do you have regarding the integration of these surveys?



## Contacts:

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